

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGKO 14813 211208Z

53

ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02 EB-11 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /095 W

----- 025715

R 211041Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6767

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 14813

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, TH

SUBJECT: OIL

REF: STATE 187474

1. SOURCES IN RTG MINERAL RESOURCES DEPT AND COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES OF TENNECO AND UNION OIL CO. AGREE UPI STORY REPORTING COMMERCIALY EXPLOITABLE PETROLEUM STRIKE IN GULF OF THAILAND PREMATURE AND INACCURATE.

2. CHIEF OF MINERAL FUEL DIV., MINERAL RESOURCES DEPT., TOLD EMBOFF THAT PM THANOM'S REMARKS AT REGULAR WEDNESDAY NEWS CONFERENCE BASED ON BRIEFING. PM AND THAI CABINET RECEIVED FROM MINERAL RESOURCES DEPT. ACCORDING TO CHIEF MINERAL FUEL DIV., FIGURE OF 20,000 TO 50,000 BARRELS PER DAY PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL WAS INVLUDED IN BRIEFING OF PM WHO THEN REFERRED TO IT IN SENSE OF THEORETICAL MAXIMUM PRODUCTION THAT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND. PM SAIB HIS PREDICTION WAS BASED ON FRAGMENTARY AND INCOMPLETE DATA GATHERED AFTER ONLY SEVEN EXPLORATORY WELLS DUG IN WHOLE GULF AREA, BUT THIS CAVEAT NOT INCLUDED IN PRESS ACCOUNTS. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THAI TEXT OF PM'S REMARKS WERE INACCURATELY REPORTED.

3. TENNECO REP DESCRIBED PM'S REMARKS AS QTE UNFORTUNATE UNQTE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGKO 14813 211208Z

TENNECO REP REFUSED ANY COMMENT ON THE EXTENT OF TENNECO'S OWN

DISCOVERY IN THE GULF. AT THE TIME OF THE DISCOVERY TENNECO
REPORTED FINDING TRACES OF OIL IN AN EXPLORATORY WELL IN BLOCK 15.
TEMNECO REP DID VOLUNTEER THAT REPORT APPEARING IN THAI PRESS
CLAIMED WELL BRILLED 6,000 FEET DEEPER THAN WAF ACTUALLY THE CASE.
HE SAID WHOLE ARTICLE WAS CHARACTERIZED BY ERRORS OF FACT ON GRAND
SCALE AND ADDED THAT RARELY, IF EVER, COULD JUDGMENTS AS TO COM-
MERCIAL EXPLOITABILITY OF OIL DEPOSITS BE MADE ON THE BASIS OF
ONE SINGLE WELL.
MASTERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO14813
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730920/aaaaaogo.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 187474
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <27-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OIL
TAGS: ENRG, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005